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245CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Altenburg Airfield

EVALUATION See below

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

26 January 1951

REFERENCES

25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE) 1 - sketch on ditto

REMARKS

SOURCE

25X1X

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1. On 6 December 1950, 27 twin-engine transports with radial engines were parked in front of the two hangars at Altenburg (N 51/K 27) airfield. [REDACTED] the airfield personnel totaled 600 officers and EN. (1) This [REDACTED] the students attending the drivers' school at the field had changed between 28 and 30 November 1950.

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2. No night exercises, parachute training, or the dropping of parachute containers were observed. Individual transport planes made local flights on the mornings of 5 and 11 December 1950 during heavy snowfalls. Trucks [REDACTED] were seen near the field. (2)

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3. It was observed that the old runway had been repaired in numerous places. To date there were no lighting facilities. The runway was 80 to 90 meters wide and had a total length of about 1,900 meters. The two hangars had a capacity of about eight, twin-engine transports each. The construction on the landing field, and the northern bypass around the field was completed. Two wooden towers were seen just behind the hangars. On top of a cabin on the tower platforms were bars with rods pointing upward at both ends. Details could not be obtained. There was no activity at the two towers. (3)

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4. On 17 December, twenty-seven, twin-engine transports of the type previously observed were on the eastern edge of the Altenburg field from noon to 5:30 p.m. (1) There was no flying. About 50 soldiers were seen near the aircraft and hangars. Building materials were still stored at their previous sites.

5. A steel tower about 10 meters high was seen 800 meters south of the end of the runway. The structure on the platform of the tower was about 2 meters high and 1 meter in diameter. The base of the tower, about 4 meters square, was covered with straw. A pipe ran from the top of the tower to the center of the base from where it went to an open ditch about 4 meters wide until it disappeared into the earth. At the upper end of the pipe, or just below the structure on top of the tower, there was a platform.

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A wire was also seen, running from the platform of the tower into the ground. This wire was fastened by clamps to one of the pillars. The tower had a ladder. (4)

6. On 4 January 1951, there was intensive flying at the field, landings and takeoffs were practiced. [redacted] 25X1A

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[redacted] Comments.

- (1) From the number of aircraft and airfield personnel strength, it is believed that the occupation of the field has not changed. One air transport regiment is believed to be located in Iten- burg. For layout of field see sketch B of Annex. 25X1A
- (2) [redacted]
- (3) The purpose of the towers cannot be determined. For sketch of tower, see sketch A of Annex.
- (4) The structure is not believed to be a military installation but a pumping device for agricultural purposes. For sketch of tower, see sketch C of Annex.

1 Annex: 3 sketches on ditto

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